

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Cancelled).

11. (Previously Presented) A computer system clocking system, said system comprising:

at least two units with clock functionality, the units being coupled to a common system clock line, a common internal clock line, and a logic bus, wherein one unit is dedicated as a master unit at a time, the dedication of the master unit being dependent on at least a signal being given so as not to select a given unit for being a master unit, and if a given unit is dedicated as master unit when such a signal is given, the system performing a switchover causing another unit as the one not selected to be dedicated as master unit, each unit comprising:

a clock source for generating a clock source signal, the clock source signal being adapted for being output on the internal clock line; and

a phase lock loop device generating a signal, which is derived from the signal on the internal clock line, and which is output on the system clock line if the unit is dedicated as master unit, wherein one source clock signal of a unit is output on the internal clock line and all phase lock loop devices of all units generate phase lock loop output signals derived from the internal clock signal, the outputs of the phase lock loop devices being in phase with one another such that switchover from one phase lock loop output signal to another is seamless.

12. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 11, wherein the unit dedicated as master unit generates the clock source signal on the internal clock line.

13. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 11, wherein each unit further comprises:

a logic section communicating with the logic bus;

a first bi-directional port communicating with the internal clock line;

a second bi-directional port communicating with a system clock line, the logic section of the unit controlling the first and second bi-directional ports to input or output respective system clock signals and respective internal clock signals via enable signals.

14. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, wherein the enable signals first change state when the system clock is in a logic state with a certain predetermined security time interval from state changes of the system clock.

15. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, wherein the logic section, in cooperation with other logic sections of other units, negotiates a priority scheme according to which a predetermined order for dedicating units is determined.

16. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 11, wherein the logic section of any unit comprises fault sense circuitry and wherein, if a fault is detected in any device, the system initiates switchover from a dedicated unit to a subsequent dedicated unit.

17. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 11, comprising an additional board not comprising any clock generating or clock evaluating functionality, the additional board being coupled to the system clock line but not to the internal clock line nor to the logic bus.

18-20. (Cancelled).

* * *